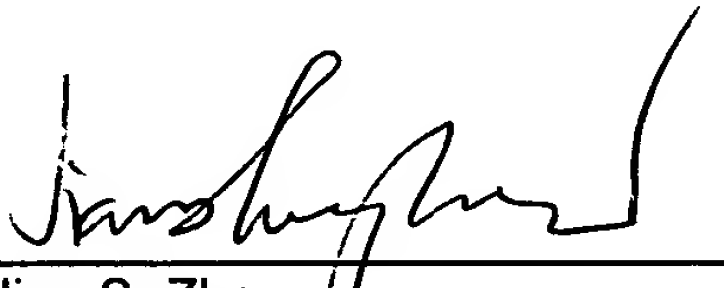


**REMARKS**

Claims 7, 9 and 14 have been amended to more clearly point out and distinctly claim the invention. Claims 15-24 have been added through this Amendment. Claims 1-5 have been cancelled through this Amendment. After these amendments are entered, thirteen (13) claims (Claims 7, 9, and 14-24) remain pending in this application through this Amendment. Supports for the newly added claims can be found on page 9 and originally filed claims. Now new matter has been introduced through this Amendment.

Should the Examiner believe that a discussion with Applicants' representative would further the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is respectfully invited to contact the undersigned. Please address all correspondence to Thomas Hoxie, Novartis Corporation, Corporate Intellectual Property, One Health Plaza, Bldg. 430, East Hanover, NJ 07936-1080. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any other fees which may be required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 and 1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0134.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Date: August 4, 2003

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